PATENT APPLICATION

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 2625

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kazuma AOKI et al. Group Art Unit: 2625

Application No.: 10/661,621 Examiner: M. MILIA

Filed: September 15, 2003 Docket No.: 117175

For: COMMUNICATION SYSTEM, COMMUNICATION TERMINAL, SYSTEM CONTROL PROGRAM PRODUCT AND TERMINAL CONTROL PROGRAM

PRODUCT

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the January 10, 2008 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection and objections is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-21, 30, 31, 33 and 34 are pending. Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 33 and 34 contain allowable subject matter.

I. 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 6-9, 11, 16-18, 21 and 27-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 7,142,318 (hereinafter "Lopez) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0114002 (hereinafter "Mitsubori"), rejects claims 4-5, 10, 12-15 and 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Lopez in view of

Mitsubori, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,029,182 (hereinafter "Nehab"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action relies on Lopez as allegedly disclosing each feature of independent claims 1, 17, 30 and 31, except the Office Action acknowledges that Lopez fails to disclose a printing unit configured to access the Web page accessed by the access unit. The Office Action relies on Figs. 1-4 and paragraphs [0099], [0102], and [0105]-[0115] as allegedly disclosing this feature.

The Office Action asserts, at pg. 5, lines 19-21, that Lopez and Mitsubori are combinable because they allegedly apply to the same field of endeavor - accessing web pages via a scanning process and subsequently printing the accessed web pages.

Applicants respectfully disagree. Lopez discloses a proof sheet that includes indicia 52 of image files retrieved based on image file URLs contained in the source code of a web page 8 and a user-designation area 54 associated with each indicia 52. The indicia 52 may include a thumbnail of the image or a filename associated with the image. The proof sheet is printed and the user makes marking in the user-designation areas 54 to specify which images are to be printed as well as printing criteria. The proof sheet is then scanned, and the images selected by the user are printed. Thus, in Lopez, the proof sheet must be prepared and printed before the scanning process occurs.

In contrast, the cited portions of Mitsubori relied upon in the rejection disclose printing a web page that is retrieved based on character recognition of a URL that is printed on a document that has been scanned. That is, in Mitsubori, the web page is printed only after the scanning process occurs.

Therefore, Lopez and Mitsubori disclose different orders for the printing and scanning processes, and the particular order disclosed by each reference of performing the processes is fundamental to the teachings of that reference.

The Office Action further states that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings of Lopez and Mitsubori to provide a user with an entire Web page to allow for easy user interaction and selection of images, and therefore increase overall efficiency.

Applicants respectfully disagree. The object of the invention in Lopez is to allow a user to preview and select for printing digital images that are associated with Internet web pages without the need to attached a computer to the printing device. (See col. 2, lines 17-21). In order to achieve this object of the invention, Lopez discloses retrieving the image files associated with a web page, printing thumbnails of the images in an array on a proof sheet, and associating each thumbnail with a user designation area. (See col. 5, line 62 - col. 6, line18). Lopez discloses that the thumbnail images are displayed in an array to allow the user to quickly and easily select which of the digitally stored images ... that he or she wants to print." (See col. 6, lines 15-18).

Thus, combining the printing of an entire web page disclosed by Mitsubori with the proof sheet of Lopez renders Lopez unsuitable for its intended purpose of allowing users to quickly and easily select digital images for printing and actually makes results in a decrease in efficiency.

Further, even if Lopez and Mitsubori are combined, the combination fails to teach or suggest printing a Web page such that a process corresponding to command content entered by a user is executed on access data extracted from the Web page, as recited by claim 1, and as similarly recited by claims 17, 30 and 31. The web page is printed in Mitsubori if there are no discrepancies due to updating or the like between the web page and a scanned image of the web page, or if there are discrepancies and a user specifies that the web page should be printed. (See paragraphs [0121]-[0123]). Thus, the Mitsubori provides no teaching or suggestion of printing a web page such that command content can be entered on the printed

web page specifying processes to be executed on access data. Further, as noted above, printing a web page would be contrary to the intended purpose of Lopez.

Further, Nehab fails to remedy the deficiencies of Mitsubori and Lopez and fails to provide any reason or rationale for combining the teachings of Mitsubori and Lopez.

Therefore, independent claims 1, 17, 30 and 31 are patentable over the applied references. The dependent claims are patentable for at least their dependency from either claim 1 or claim 17 as well as for the additional features they recite.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 10, 2008

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